

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for managing electronic images in a camera, said method comprising:
 - capturing a first plurality of electronic images in said camera;
 - filling memory in said camera to capacity, with said first plurality of electronic images;
 - capturing a second plurality of electronic images in said camera, following said filling;
 - selectively assigning individual tags to one or more of said electronic images to define tagged images having said tags and untagged images lacking said tags;
 - during said capturing of said second plurality of electronic images, replacing said untagged images in said memory on a first in-first out basis;
 - retaining said tagged images in said memory during said replacing;
 - and
 - terminating one or more of said tags, said terminating redefining said tagged images as untagged images, said terminating being independent of said capturing.
2. The method of claim 1 further comprising downloading said tagged images, and wherein said terminating is responsive to said downloading.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein said retaining is for a predetermined time interval and said terminating is at the expiration of said time interval.
4. The method of claim 1 further comprising capturing latent images on photographic film.

5. The method of claim 1 further comprising, during said capturing of said electronic images, capturing corresponding first and second pluralities of latent images on photographic film.

6. The method of claim 5 further comprising loading a first film unit into said camera prior to said first capturing step and replacing said first film unit with a second film unit during said first capturing step.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein said second plurality is less than said first plurality prior to said terminating.

8. A method for managing electronic images in a camera, said method comprising:

capturing a first plurality of electronic images in said camera;

filling memory in said camera to capacity, with said first plurality of electronic images;

capturing a second plurality of electronic images in said camera, following said filling;

capturing latent images on photographic film;

selectively assigning individual tags to one or more of said electronic images to define tagged images having said tags and untagged images lacking said tags;

during said capturing of said second plurality of electronic images, replacing said untagged images in said memory on a first in-first out basis;

retaining said tagged images in said memory during said replacing;

downloading one or more said tagged images; and

terminating said tags of said tagged images subject to said downloading, said terminating redefining said tagged images as untagged images, said terminating being responsive to said downloading.

9. The method of claim 8 further comprising, wherein said capturing of each of said latent images is concurrent with said capturing of a respective one of said electronic images.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein each of said electronic images corresponds to one of said latent images.

11. The method of claim 9 wherein said latent images are captured in a plurality of film units and said method further comprises sequentially loading a plurality of film units into said camera.

12. The method of claim 9 further comprising selectively terminating one or more of said tags prior to said downloading.

13. A method for managing electronic images in a camera, said method comprising:

sequentially storing said first plurality of electronic images in memory in said camera, said memory having a storage capacity commensurate with said first plurality of electronic images;

sequentially capturing a second plurality of electronic images in said camera, following said storing;

selectively assigning individual tags to one or more of said electronic images to define tagged images having said tags and untagged images lacking said tags;

during said capturing of said second plurality of electronic images, sequentially replacing an oldest of said untagged images in said memory;

retaining said tagged images in said memory during said replacing;

and

terminating one or more of said tags, said terminating redefining said tagged images as untagged images, said terminating being independent of said capturing.

14. The method of claim 13 further comprising capturing latent images on photographic film.

15. The method of claim 13 further comprising, during said capturing of said electronic images, capturing corresponding first and second pluralities of latent images on photographic film.

16. A hybrid electronic-film camera for use with photographic film units, said camera comprising:

a body;

an electronic capture unit disposed in said body, said electronic capture unit capturing a sequence of electronic images;

memory disposed in said body in operative relation to said electronic capture unit, said memory storing said electronic images, said memory having a predetermined storage capacity;

a tag selector disposed on said body, said tag selector selectively tagging selected ones of said electronic images in said memory with electronic tags to define said images having said tags as tagged images and said images lacking said tags as untagged images; and

a memory manager operatively connected to said memory and said tag selector, said memory manager blocking replacement of said tagged images in said memory, said memory manager replacing said untagged images in said memory on a first-in-first-out basis when said sequence of electronic images exceeds said storage capacity.

17. The camera of claim 16 further comprising a communications port operatively connected to said memory, said port being selectively useable to download said tagged images and wherein said memory manager terminates said tags of respective said tagged images responsive to said downloading.

18. The camera of claim 16 further comprising a film capture unit capable of selectively capturing a plurality of latent images on said film.

19. The camera of claim 16 wherein said memory manager terminates individual said tags after the expiration of a predetermined time period from the respective said tagging.

20. The camera of claim 16 wherein said tag selector selectively untags individual ones of said tags.